

MAR 2 1993

Before the
Federal Communication Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
)
Replacement of Part 90)
by Part 88 to Revise)
the Private Land Mobile)
Radio Services and Modify)
the Policies Governing them)

PR Docket 92-235

To: The Commission

COMMENT OF

Charlie Christ, Ft. Washakie F.D.
1440 Cowboy Lane
Riverton, WY 82501

Fremont County Fire submits its comments
in response to the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making in this proceeding.

1. In regards to § 88.429, and specifically Table C-3 to be used for systems in the 150-216 MHz and 450-470 MHz segments concerning power and antenna height limits, we have very serious concerns as to the effect on existing and future two-way radio systems. The severe restrictions placed on the Effective Radiated Power will have a serious detrimental effect on the feasibility and practicality of two-way radio systems.

One additional factor should be taken into consideration in formulating the power level charts such as chart C-3. This factor should be the population in an area prescribed by a circle of 75 mile radius from the transmitter. In densely populated areas, the power levels shown in the proposed chart may be a viable solution. In rural, mountainous, and areas of low population, the constraints placed on a two-way radio system by the proposed power levels would place an undo burden on the two-way radio user for no reason. Especially in rural, low population areas, there is not sufficient justification for the drastically decreased transmit power levels. In these areas, the number of two-way radio systems is low enough that system coverage overlap with co-channel users will not be a serious issue as is found in areas of dense population. Users in rural, low population areas generally require two-way radio systems to cover a larger area than those in areas of dense population. Business, public safety, and local government users in rural areas need systems that will cover a large geographical area with the lowest possible number of transmitters in order to make a radio system economically feasible. We would propose a stepped chart similar to that of Chart C-14 with the criteria of service area radius being replaced by a criteria of the population level within a 75 mile radius of the transmitter site. Time limits imposed by the required

No. of Copies rec'd
List A B C D E

075

comment deadline prevent us from designing a complete chart, but we would propose that as a first level that areas with a population of 250,000 or less within a 75 mile radius of the transmitter site have authorized power levels of 300 watts ERP. Successive table elements would take into consideration areas of increasing population and antenna height until the more restrictive levels found in the current C-3 chart are reached in areas of high density population.

2. In regards to the General Category Pool and the proposal that all certified frequency coordinators be allowed to assign frequencies from this pool, we also have some reservations. If all coordinators are to be allowed to assign frequencies, a single, common and up-to-date database must be maintained for use by all coordinators.

to the new specifications and perform coverage tests during periods that will have a less serious effects on radio systems, businesses, and public safety operations. To perform such tests during the winter months would be difficult technically and could have a serious impact on the safety of property and lives.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Chavis
CHIEF, FT. WASHAKIE F.D.
FREMONT COUNTY FIRE

Addendum to comments in regards to FCC PR Docket 92-235

1. § 88.231 and § 88.473 have the appearance of prohibiting mobile relay operations in the 150-174 MHz band. Public Safety and other eligible user classifications are currently allowed to operate mobile relay stations in this band. If mobile relays are not to be permitted in 150-174 MHz under part 88, serious degradation of communication services will result. Especially in the Public Safety sector, mobile relays are a vital component of communication systems, being required in order to provide the necessary coverage and inter-unit communications so vital to the mission of Public Safety entities. The commission should take the opportunity afforded by the addition of new channel allocations to provide for channel pairing for assignment to mobile relay operations. The channel pairing could be based on the 5.26 MHz spacing as noted in § 88.231, 5 MHz spacing as is currently found in the 450-470 MHz band or some other feasible channel separation.

2. The assignment of 5 KHz channel spacing in the 150-174 MHz band does not conform to the recently adopted 6.25 KHz federal government channel spacing in the same band. This could easily have the effect of making equipment purchased by state and local government entities incompatible with that of federal government agencies. Interoperability between federal, state, local governments is a vital concern of all agencies. In addition, equipment is likely to be more expensive as manufacturers will be required to design and build equipment to meet both standards and will not be able to take advantage of the economies of scale if all equipment were built to a single standard.